(b) whether it is fact that there has been an alarming backlog in national highway projects and that the current gap between the requirements and availability of funds for road projects is estimated at Rs. 52,400 crore; and

(c) to what extent, Government expects that the private participation investment would cover the pressing requirements for top priority segments and whether Government have already cleared projects covering a length of 2,000 kms for private sector under BOT scheme and whether any such project has been cleared for Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir. The National Highways (Amendment) Bill, 1995 for allowing Private Sector participation in the road sector has been introduced in the Lok Sabha. It is too early to indicate the quantum of initial investment on priority routes.

(b) The removal of deficiencies in the existing National Highway System have been estimated to cost Rs. 52,200 crore at 1994 price level.

(c) It is too early to indicate the extent of private sector participation pending amendment to National Highways Act 1956. No project on BOT basis on National Highways has been cleared so far in the country.

Fourlaning of National Highways

4691. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the National Highways in various States, especially in Bihar, which are proposed to be converted into fourlaned roads during 1995-96;

(b) what is the amount fixed for this purpose; and

(c) what policy/criterion is adopted to select the National Highways for conversion into fourlaned roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) A statement showing details is annexed (See below)

(c) As per the existing policy, fourlaning of any two lane Section of National Highway is considered when the traffic exceeds 15000 PCUs/day.

Statement

Four Planing of National Highways

Sl. No.	State	National Highway Proposed for 4-Laning during 1995-96	Length in Km.	Estimated cost in crores
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5 & 9	203	493.00
2.	Assam	37	5	5.00
3.	Bihar	2	43	128.00
4.	Gujarat	8 & 8C	18	21.00
5.	Haryana	8	71	178.00
6.	Maharashtra	4 & 8	5	6.00
7.	Orissa	5	39	133.00
8.	Rajasthan	8	55	121.00
9.	Uttar Pradesh	2 & 24	37	105.00
10.	West Bengal	2 & 35	47	163.00
	TOTAL :		523	1353.00